



Desk-top computer designed for time sharing

A desk-size, programmable calculator computes both decimal and binary arithmetic to eight digits of decimal accuracy. Developed for time sharing, the Wang 3300 system can accommodate up to 16 users simultaneously.

The general purpose digital computer, developed to handle all routine problem solving, fills a gap between the most powerful calculators and major computer systems, according to the manufacturer.

Each user needs only a small input-output terminal consisting of either a modified teletype for in-house computer sharing, or a standard teletype and acoustic coupler for telephone communication with the computer.

With two or three hours of training, a terminal operator can feed programs into the computer using the language BASIC.

In addition to the computer's core memory, a terminal storage unit can tape record program input. For subsequent use, the operator simply feeds the computer the recorded program.

The operator may temporarily interrupt a program to compute a problem and then return to the program. The operator can also correct one or more columns in a statement without retyping the entire statement. This feature permits copying existing statements with new statement numbers.

The Wang system can be purchased for under \$20,000 or leased for under \$600 per month in a package that includes several terminals, cassettes, the 3300 computer and programs. In addition to reference manuals, the company offers a catalog of available programs. WANG LABORATORIES, INC., 836 NORTH ST., TEWKSBURY, MASS. 01876.

Sand-cast aluminum panels compete with stone, concrete

A European sand-casting process, now used in the U.S., produces cast-aluminum curtain wall panels that the manufacturer claims are competitive with stone or precast concrete panels.

The basic saving comes from the reduced shipping, handling and installing costs of the lightweight ½-in.-thick aluminum panels, which are manufactured in widths up to 7 ft and lengths up to 13 ft. A cast aluminum panel weighs about 5.7 psf, or one-tenth the weight of comparable stone or concrete facade panels.

The manufacturer says the panels have their own cured finish and are available in a variety of textured surfaces suitable for use outside or inside of a building.

Panels can be applied to existing curtain walls, set in extruded aluminum frames, or attached directly to steel columns and beams. When used with existing curtain walls, panels can be offset ½-in. to increase the insulation.

Each panel is equipped with brackets attached to the back for hanging. When specified, panels can be shipped with factory-attached insulation panels bonded to the back of the aluminum. They can also be fabricated as load-bearing spandrels to support windows. ALUSUISSE METALS, INC., 2460 LEMOINE AVE., FORT LEE, N.J. 07024.

PRODUCT BRIEFS

Off-road hauler

A 35-ton dump for off-road work has a longer V-design body for easier loading and dumping, and wider frame for greater wheel base stability than most comparable models, according to the manufacturer. The vehicle has a closed hydraulic system with full flow filtration. Its final drive has a plug-in power transfer differential and input pinion and ring gear assembly. WESTINGHOUSE AIR BRAKE CO., 2302 N.E. ADAMS ST., PEORIA, ILL. 61601.

Light probe

Probe for visual inspection of remote and inaccessible areas uses high-intensity cold light and an optical system that keeps objects constantly in focus. Available in lengths from 6½ to 72 in. ANACON INC., 62 UNION ST., ASHLAND, MASS. 01721.

Fluid sampler

Sampling device and depth indicator for use in liquids up to 1,000 ft deep operates by air pressure. Unit can be programmed

Centrifugal pumps

Engine-driven centrifugal pumps in 2,3,4 and 6-in. ratings have impeller, diffuser arrangements that eliminate the need for a volute or foot valve. UNITED STATES MOTORS CORP., OSHKOSH, WIS. 54901.

Non-Priming pump

Line of pumps, with discharge quantities ranging from 55 to 800 gpm, has mechanism that eliminates loss of discharge water at shutdown. WARN INDUSTRIES, 9030 EMPIRE WAY S., SEATTLE, WASH. 98118.

Selsmograph

Instrument gives information on seismic velocities of subsurface soils and rock for groundwater studies, rock profiling, and rock stress measurements. SOILTEST, INC. 2205 LEE ST., EVANSTON, ILL. 60202.

Power supply

Portable power module attaches to 12 volt car or truck storage battery to deliver 1,000 watts to operate power tools or 110 volt

Scoring tool

Device simplifies cutting and sizing of thin strips of dry wallboard using two knife blades that score the wallboard on both sides as it is passed along at a desired width. Manufacturer claims, scored wallboard will break evenly in a sharp, clean edge. The device is most effective for cutting pieces of 6 in. or less in width and can be adjusted for thickness. W.H. ENTERPRISES, 5601 CLEVELAND PLACE, FREMONT, CALIF. 94538.

Hoist

Pole-mounted hoist, which attaches to any pole in three to five minutes, operates off batteries or power supply. Weight, 50 lb; capacity, 3,000 lb. CITY ENGINEERING CO., INC., 3547 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., INDIANAPOLIS, IND. 46218.

Air-controlled hoists

Heavy-duty hoists have air controls, double-width clutch and brake drums and compression-type dogs capable of holding at least three times the rated line pull, manufacturer says. AMERICAN HOIST & DERRICK